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Flight Report

Aircraft :	NASA P-3B
Operating Site(s) From / To :	PAFA (Fairbanks, AK) / BGTL (Thule)
Flight Date :	April 5, 2009
Flight Number / Data Flight # :	721
Time out:	0937 (Z)
Time in:	1816 (Z)
Flight Time :	8.7
Flt Request # / PI:	FR#9P007/013/014
Purpose of Flight :	Data <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ferry <input type="checkbox"/> Functional Check <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Sensor Payload :	Arctic Ice Gap (Operation Ice Bridge) for Sea Ice ICESat orbit tracks. ATM(2), Snow radar
Comments :	<p>The return transit mission from Fairbanks to Thule was successful. Takeoff was 0137 AKDT from Fairbanks with a high altitude passage to the north coast of Alaska (see flight path on next page), where the P-3 descended to 1500'. The P-3 progressed from night toward sunrise with a beautiful pre dawn aurora visible during transit.</p> <p>The ATM systems and the Snow Accumulation Radar collected good data for approximately 5.5 hours over sea ice. Three ICESat passes were surveyed during the flight, with nearly 100% clear sky, and nearly 100% ice cover.</p> <p>The LVIS team was busy while the P-3 was in Fairbanks, and the LVIS team has run numerous successful tests on the ground and considers the instrument to be in an up</p>

status.

Plans for tomorrow are to survey an Ice Bridge mission on the west coast of Greenland, just south of Thule; after that there will be a test of the LVIS instrument. If the LVIS test is successful, a high altitude LVIS flight will be flown on Tuesday.

The aircraft and all instruments are in an up status.

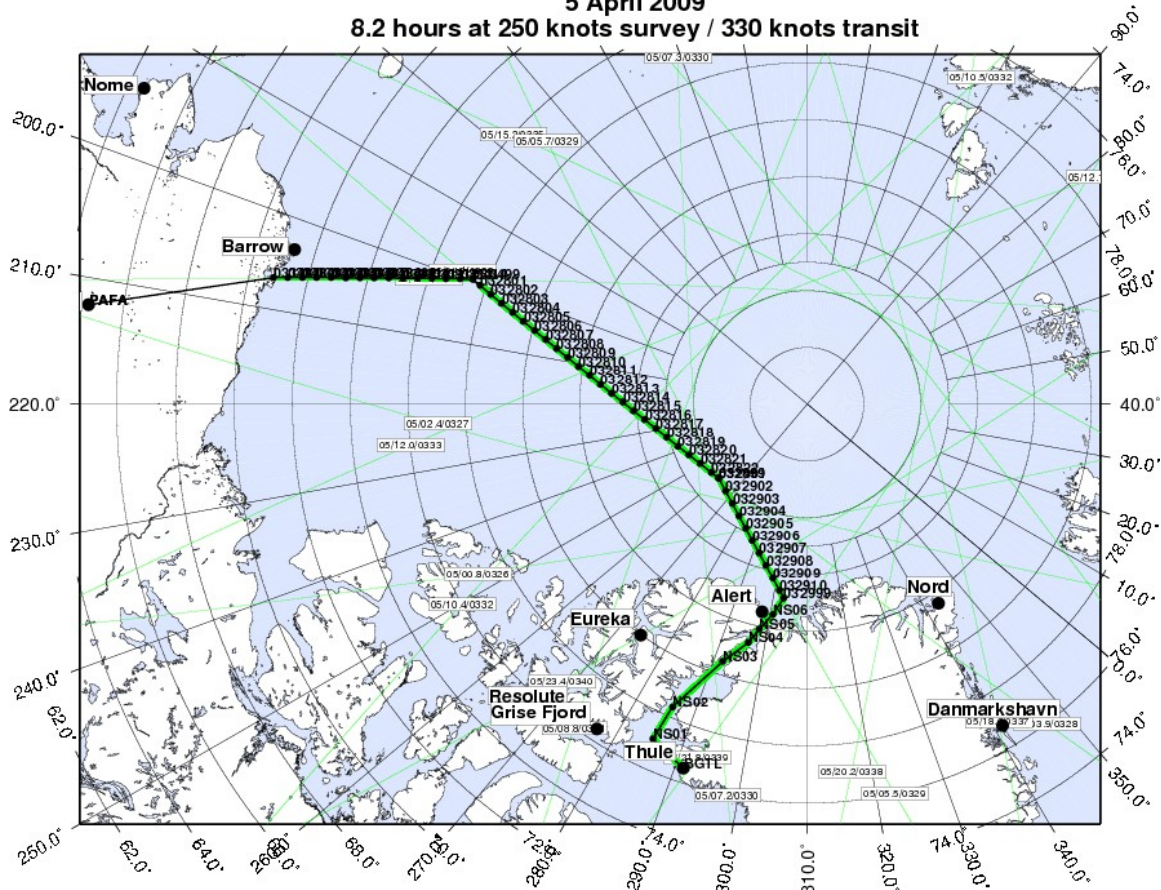
SUBMITTED BY: Cate Fairchild

5 April 2009

Sea Ice Mission 2

5 April 2009

8.2 hours at 250 knots survey / 330 knots transit



Flight	Date	Aircraft Flight #	Data Flight#	Hours flown	Total Hours Remaining
<i>Total Allocated</i>					<i>184.0</i>
ECF	3/25/2009	713		0.8	183.2
PCF	3/27/2009	716		3.7	179.5
Transit to Thule	3/30/2009	693		7.6	171.9
Science flight	3/31/2009	718	1	8.1	163.8
Science flight	4/1/2009	719	2	7.7	156.1
Science flight	4/2/2009	720	3	8.2	147.9
Science flight	4/5/2009	721	4	8.7	139.2
<i>Return Transit*</i>	<i>TBD</i>			<i>8.0</i>	<i>131.2</i>
<i>Post-mission calibration*</i>	<i>TBD</i>			<i>2.0</i>	<i>129.2</i>

* Time for return transit and post-mission flight are estimates only